

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed November 6, 2008 has been carefully reviewed and the following remarks have been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application.

Reconsideration of the restriction requirement imposed under 35 U.S.C. § 121 is respectfully requested.

A requirement was imposed under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to restrict the application to one of the following inventions:

Group I, Claims 1-8.

Group II, Claims 9-11.

Group III, Claims 12-19.

Group IV, Claims 20-22

Applicant elects, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-8, for prosecution on the merits.

The restriction requirement is traversed. MPEP Section 803 states that if “the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.”

Applicant respectfully submits that the search and examination of the entire application (Groups I, II, III and IV) can be made without serious burden. For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests examination of Groups I, II, III and IV.

In addition, requirements for restriction are not mandatory under 35 U.S.C. § 121.
Accordingly, reconsideration of the restriction requirement is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert B. Reeser, III', is written over a horizontal line.

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